

Remembering Truth When it Really Counts

*“... a primer to
guard against false
teaching by...”*

Understanding Our Scriptures (1:12–21) Our Reminder, Our Eyewitnesses & Inspiration



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Red sky morning, Sailor take warning...
Red sky night, Sailor delight

Understanding Our Scriptures

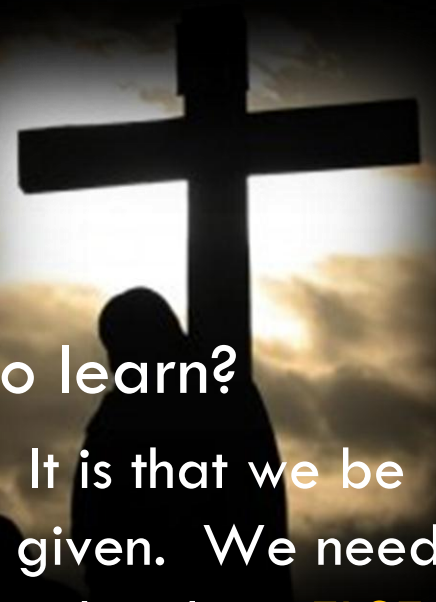
2 Peter 1:12-21

12 Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and have been established in the truth which is present with you. 13 I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder, 14 knowing that the laying aside of my earthly dwelling is imminent, as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. 15 And I will also be diligent that at any time after my departure you will be able to call these things to mind. *(Our Reminder)*

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 17 For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an [a]utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, “This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased”— 18 and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. *(Our Eyewitnesses)*

19 So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. 20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. *(Our Inspiration)*

A Remembrance of God's Basic Truths (1 Pet. 1:12-21)



Our Objectives: What does God want us to learn?

1. God's plan for His people has never changed. It is that we be constantly focusing on the **TRUTH** that God has given. We need nothing **NEW**. We need nothing **MORE**. We need nothing **ELSE**.
2. We need constant reminders of the **WORD**. The testimony of **EYEWITNESSES** is fully creditable – nobody made up a story, nobody fooled them – they were there. They **SAW** They **HEARD**. It **HAPPENED**. You can **BELIEVE IT!**
3. God's word is *living and powerful* – pay attention to it as a *lamp* in the midst of *a dark* world, for He is *serious* about His Word.

Our Eyewitnesses (1:16-18)

The Evidences of the Truth (1:16-18)

In verses 12-15, Peter told his readers that his purpose for the rest of his earthly life would be to continually remind them of these great and essential truths concerning Jesus Christ – what Christ has done for them, the way they need to continue to grow and mature in Christ, that their lives need to be focused on the coming again of Christ in Glory to establish the Kingdom, of which they in glorified bodies, will be a part.

Our Eyewitnesses (1:16-18)

Our Foundation – Teaching of the Apostles and Prophets

All of this has as its foundation – the fact that what Peter says about Jesus Christ is true. For the remainder of Chap. 1, Peter will offer them the evidence and assurance – two lines of support:

- i. Verses 16-18 - Apostolic eyewitness testimony
- ii. Verses 19-21 - Authority of prophetic Scriptures

Our Eyewitnesses (1:16-18)

The 1st Line of Argument – What Peter observed and heard as an apostle of Jesus Christ – experienced in the context of other apostles.

Note that verse 16 begins with “For” – meant to connect 15 w/ 16

It is important to remember...important to be able to “call them to mind”...why? Because they are true and after the apostles pass off the scene, we simply have the written record of the eyewitnesses.....Just as true and valid!



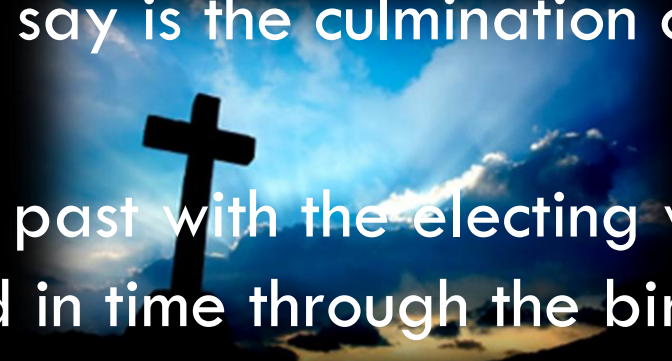
Our Eyewitnesses (1:16-18)

Salvation Stands as a Complete Plan

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Peter is talking about the Coming of Jesus Christ. The focal point of what he will say is the culmination of our salvation.

Salvation: -Began is eternity past with the electing work of God; and accomplished in time through the birth, life and death of Jesus Christ; His resurrection and ascension into heaven; and completed in His Future coming again in glorious power of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ



Our Eyewitnesses (1:16-18)

17 For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, “This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased”—

Christ received honor and glory from God the Father, and was distinguished from Him. Christ was identified as God the Father’s beloved son. God the Father bestowed glory and honor upon Christ.

“...This is my beloved Son...” – Christ was clearly identified as the Messiah. (Ps. 2:6-9)

“...with whom I am well pleased.” – Christ was the One who pleases God . (Isa. 42:1)

Our Eyewitnesses (1:16-18)

17 For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, “This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased”—

What is the content of the Father’s testimony - “This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased...hear Him”?

- **The Essence of relationship** — One in essence with Me (affirming the deity of the Son)
- **The Love of the relationship** — Divine love between God and Jesus
- **The Obedience of the relationship** — Everything Jesus did was according to God’s plan
- **The Authority of the relationship** — God testified to the authority of Jesus’ words

Our Inspiration (1:19-21)

God's Sure Word

Scriptures Provide Sure Confidence in God's Revelation (1:19)

As we close out 2 Peter 1, Peter shows great concern for the spiritual health and well-being of these believers as he anticipates the time when he will no longer be present with them. He is preparing them (us) for the facing danger of false teachers and false doctrine (Chap. 2).

What do we know about Satan's work in opposing God and the people of God? (See Gen. 3:3-5)

1. Satan claims that *what God has said will not happen*
2. Satan offers a *alternative, with added benefit*

Our Inspiration (1:19-21)

The battle always focuses on the Word of God

Even God's people constantly want to drift away from His word. (Isa. 8:19-20; Gal. 1:6, 8-9) Why?

As Moses prepared for his departure, having led Israel for 40 years, he gave them final instructions and perspective regarding God's word: (Deut. 32:45-47)

“it is your life ”

Keep the word of God on your mind. Meditate on it; allow it to shape your life; mold your thinking; and control your conduct. (Joshua 1:5-7)

Our Inspiration (1:19-21)

The first argument in verses 16-18: Peter and the other apostles were Eyewitnesses of the Power and Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now in verse 19 Peter presents a **second argument** regarding the reliability and truthfulness of what is being preached about Jesus Christ: *The prophetic Scriptures are reliable*

Prophetic word is a reference to OT Scriptures; which have their fulfillment and focus in Jesus Christ. (Luke 24:27, 44-45)

“...the prophetic word made more sure...” - Word that is firm; settled; more sure.

Our Inspiration (1:19-21)

“...to which you do well to pay attention.” - False teachers are effective and will confuse believers and discredit the word of God. (2 Pet. 2:2)

Have you outgrown the need to be serious about the Word of God? How many of Christ's commands do you take seriously today? (King Saul application – ref. Deut. 17:14-20; 1 Sam. 13; Matt. 28:20)

“...as to a lamp shining in a dark place...” - The Word of God is the only light in a dark world. (Ps. 119:105; 1 John 1:5; Eph. 6:12)

Our Inspiration (1:19-21)

“...until the day dawns and the morning star arises...” —
This is a reference to the *Return of Christ in Glory*
(Rom. 13:12; Rev. 22:16). Do you think we still have to
give the same attention and diligence to the Word
today, as they did back when Peter wrote this letter?

Grammatical view of “in your hearts” — connects to “you
do well to pay attention”... “in your hearts...knowing
that no prophesy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own
interpretation.”

Our Inspiration (1:19-21)

Scripture Is not Matter of One's Own Interpretation (1:20)

“...**first of all**, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation.” - Peter calls attention to the fact (“first of all”) that this is basic, foundational and of prime importance.

The word translated interpretation means to unloose something or to explain something.

Prophets did not give their own interpretation of events, when God used signs, dreams and visions when He spoke to the prophets. Rather, it was the work of the Spirit of God in the prophet that brought God's word through the prophet (See the contrast and seriousness of God— [Jer. 23:16; 25-27; Ezek 13:2, 6-10](#))

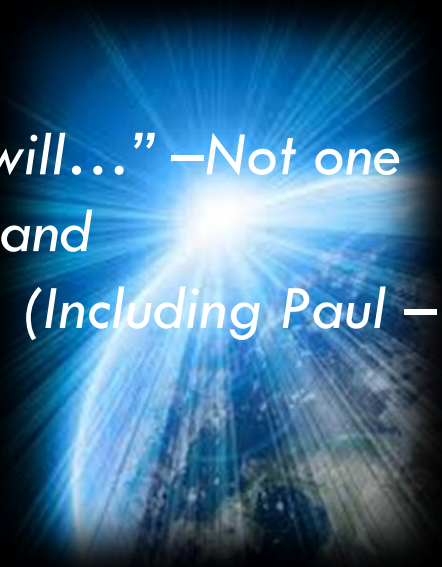
True test of a prophet — ([Deut. 13:1-5](#))

Our Inspiration (1:19-21)

“For no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will...” —Not one word came from the prophets’ own dreams and interpretations — rather through God’s spokesmen. (Including Paul — 2 Pet. 3:15)

Holy Spirit Imparts Truth Through Godly Men (1:21)

- “...but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.” — Men are the spokesmen,
- “men moved” — means carry something along; to bear along.
Carried along by the Holy Spirit. Men entrusted with God’s Word
- When God wanted to speak through a man, the Holy Spirit carried them along and guaranteed he would not error. (1 Pet. 1:10) This is the God’s work of inspiration.





Peter:

This prepares you for chapter 2. Beware, there will be false teachers among you.

Pay attention, they will be clever, effective and appealing – but FALSE!

Be devoted to the Word –it is our Life!